



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

City of San Diego
Planning & Development Review
Building Development Review
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Building Newsletter 23-2

Allowable Uses for Utility Grade Lumber

Interpretations of State and Local Building Codes
1998 California Building Code: Chapter 23
Revision Date: July 1999

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I. Department Requirements

The conditions under which Utility grade light framing lumber will be approved for use by this department appear in part in Section 2320.11.1 of the CBC and are as follows:

- A. Utility grade studs shall be spaced a maximum of 16 inches on center and support not more than a ceiling and a roof.
- B. The maximum wall height shall be 8 feet for exterior

and/or load-bearing walls and 10 feet for interior nonload-bearing walls.

- C. 2x3 utility grade studs shall not be used in exterior walls.
- D. Utility grade lumber may also be used for double top plates on stud walls, for sill plates, and for draft stops and fire blocks.